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State of Connecticut General Assembly State Capital Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Raised Bill No. 5283

March 3, 2022

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing in regard to supporting Bill #5283. I feel strongly that Agriscience Education should be a priority for the state of Connecticut. As a parent I have witnessed in only a few short months how this program has completely given my son the foundation he needs to succeed. A once quiet student who suffers from a disability called *Selective Mutism* now has found his voice. He feels he has purpose and is now driven to learn. He describes his Agricultural School, *Ellis Clark Regional Agriscience* at Nonnewaug High School like his second family.

I can't stress enough how this program has been beneficial to not only my son but all the students enrolled in the program. Every student should be allowed this opportunity.

Please pass bill 5283 intact.

Sincerely,

Julia Hayes Julia Hayes